PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

MV E.

Docket No.: SCHALLER

in re Application of:

HEINZ SCHALLER et al.

Exam: Quang Ngyuen

MAY 1 4 2002

HECEIVED

Appl. No.: 09/383,978

Group Art Unit: 1632

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: August 26, 1999

For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR

EXPRESSING HETEROLOGOUS GENES IN HEPATOCYTES USING

HEPADNAVIRAL VECTORS

RESPONSE TO OFFICIAL ACTION dated November 6, 2001

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on April 30, 2002 (Date)

Ursula B. Day

(Name of Registered Representative)

SIR:

This communication is in response to the Official Action of November 6, 2001, having a shortened period for response terminating February 6, 2002.

The Commissioner is hereby petitioned to extend the period for response to above-referenced Official Action by THREE months until May 6, 2002.

05/13/2002 NABHANA1 00000052 09383978

01 FC:217

460.00 09